

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the said mummy is not being properly preserved due to lack of proper maintenance; and

(c) if so, the efforts being made by Government for preservation of this National Heritage?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) A buried body, dried in arid climate was a chance find in 1983 near the village of Gyu. Spiti sub division in district Lahaul and Spiti, Himachal Pradesh.

(b) and (c) The body is presently under the physical possession of the local villagers. This matter does not come under the purview of the Archaeological Survey of India.

Repair, renovation and development of archaeological monuments

†2137. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an immediate need to repair, renovate and develop a number of archaeological monuments situated in various State including Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government for repair, renovation and development of these monuments?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Conservation of protected monuments is a continuous process. The protected monuments under the control of Archaeological Survey of India located in different states of the country including Delhi are conserved, preserved and developed as per archaeological principles in vogue.

(b) The conservation, preservation and environmental development of the protected monuments are taken up in accordance with a conservation plan drawn up every year. In addition to this conservation plan, routine maintenance and repair works are taken up as and when necessary.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.